

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 278703
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:LPFEIFLE:CFC
APPROVED BY P:PCHABIB
ARA:WPSTEDMAN
ARA:SASHELTON
ARA/CAR:RSURBER
S/S-O :JETHYDEN

-----076219 212223Z /73

O R 212200Z NOV 77 ZFF6
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL BELIZE
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

S E C R E T STATE 278703

NODIS
FO, THE AMBASSADOR FROM HA3IB

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PBOR, GT, UK, BH

SUBJECT: BELIZE NEGOTIATIONS

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE BRITISH AND GUATEMALANS
MAY BE NEAR AN AGREEMENT ON BELIZE WHICH INVOLVES A
PRIOR TERRITORIAL CESSION TO GUATEMALA. BELIZEAN
PREMIER PRICE TOLD US, ON THE BASIS OF A RECENT CON-
VERSATION WITH PANAMA'S TORRIJOS, THAT BELIZE COULD
GET A BETTER SETTLEMENT FROM THE NEXT GUATEMALAN
ADMINISTRATION. HOWEVER, IN RESPONSE TO OUR DEMARCHE
TORRIJOS SAID HE WOULD DO EVERYTHING HE COULD TO
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HELP PERSUADE PRICE TO GO ALONG WITH THE ANGLO-
GUATEMALAN PROPOSAL. PRICE ALSO SAID THE VENEZUELAN
AND OTHER LATINS WOULD NOT APPROVE A SETTLEMENT
INVOLVING A CESSION. THE BRITISH, WITH PRICE'S
ACQUIESCENCE, WILL BE SOUNDING OUT THE JAMAICANS
AND KEY LATINS AS TO THEIR VIEWS OF A NEGOTIATED
SETTLEMENT INVOLVING A MINOR TERRITORIAL CESSION.

2. WE BELIEVE THERE IS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY NOW TO RESOLVE THIS ISSUE. GUATEMALAN PRESIDENT LAUGERUD IS A MODERATE, AND COMMITTED TO SETTLING THE BELIZE DISPUTE BEFORE LEAVING OFFICE JULY 1. IN OUR OPINION NONE OF THE THREE CANDIDATES TO SUCCEED HIM WOULD BE WILLING OR ABLE TO AGREE TO A SETTLEMENT MORE FAVORABLE TO BELIZE THAN LAUGERUD. IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL IF THE JAMAICANS COULD CONVEY TO PRICE THAT HE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY NOW TO OBTAIN INDEPENDENCE ON TERMS MORE FAVORABLE THAN POSSIBLE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS.

3. AFTER COORDINATING WITH THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR, PLEASE SEE PRIME MINISTER MANLEY AT HIS EARLIEST CONVENIENCE AND MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- WE UNDERSTAND THE BRITISH AND GUATEMALANS MAY BE NEAR A SETTLEMENT ON BELIZE INVOLVING A MINOR CESSION OF TERRITORY TO GUATEMALA.

-- WE BELIEVE THAT THE CHANCES OF ARRIVING AT A SETTLEMENT WHICH WOULD GIVE BELIZE SELF-DETERMINATION ARE GREATER NOW THAN THEY WILL BE FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. GUATEMALAN PRESIDENT LAUGERUD HAS ADOPTED A MODERATE POSITION AND IS COMMITTED TO RESOLVING THE ISSUE BEFORE HE LEAVES OFFICE JULY 1. NONE
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OF THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES WOULD BE WILLING OR ABLE TO AGREE TO A SETTLEMENT AS FAVORABLE TO BELIZE AS LAUGERUD. TWO, PERALTA AZURDIA AND LUCAS, ARE HARD-LINERS. IN THE CASE OF THE THIRD, THE MILITARY DOES NOT TRUST PERALTA MENDEZ ENOUGH TO ALLOW HIM TO NEGOTIATE WHAT THEY SEE AS A LESS-THAN-DESIRABLE SETTLEMENT.

-- WE HOPE MANLEY WOULD CONVEY TO PRICE THAT A SETTLEMENT NOW, INVOLVING MINOR TERRITORIAL CESSION, IS THE BEST OPPORTUNITY LIKELY FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS FOR BELIZE TO ACHIEVE SELF-DETERMINATION, AND THAT JAMAICA SUPPORTS A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

-- WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF MANELY WOULD KEEP THIS CONVERSATION IN STRICTEST CONFIDENCE.

4. YOU SHOULD NOT GET OUT IN FRONT ON THIS, BUT ARRANGE TO SEE MANLEY SO THAT YOU GO IN AFTER YOUR BRITISH COLLEAGUE.

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ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:SVALEGRA

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:SVALEGRA

-----079036 220603Z /13

O 220545Z NOV 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 278703

NODIS

FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION KINGSTON INFO LONDON, BELIZE,
GUATEMALA FROM STATE NOV 21:

QUOTE S E C R E T STATE 278703

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HABIB UNQUOTE HABIB

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 503689
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BELIZE NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: PBOR, GT, UK, BH
To: KINGSTON LONDON MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c0a8b114-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009